

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /027 W  
-----006164 021321Z /44

P R 021244Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO CDR MIRCOM RSA AL//DRCPM-KMS//PRIORITY//  
INFO SECSTATE WASH DC 1344  
CDR USASAC ALEX VA//DRSAC-WM/ME//  
SECDEF WASH DC//ISA(SA)/DSAA//  
DA WASH DC//DALO-ILM//

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3838

FROM USLOK/KMPLO

DEPT ALSO FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, KU  
SUBJECT: FATALITY IN KADF I-HAWK PROGRAM (U)

REF: A. TM 9-1450-500-24P (U)  
B. TM 9-1450-500-34 (U)

1. (U) AT APPROXIMATELY 0930 HRS LOCAL TIME ON 1 JUNE 1978, E5 SAAD AHMED SAAD AL-MAHBOOB, (SCN 5326011, MOS 24L/46D, KADF) WAS FATALLY INJURED IN THE PROCESS OF INITIAL LOAD TESTING OF LOADER-TRANSPORTER/GUIDED MISSILE (SERIAL NO. 20108).

2. (U) AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT E5 AL-MAHBOOB WAS BEING SUPERVISED/OBSERVED BY HIS KADF SUPERVISOR. THE LOADER-TRANSPORTER WAS BEING TESTED IAW REF B. AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT, E5 AL-MAHBOOB AND E6 MOHAMMED ABDULLA AL-QARNI, SCN 527008, WERE IN THE PROCESS OF PERFORMING STEP 5-29D OF REF B. THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED INSIDE THE CENTRAL MAINTENANCE  
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FACILITY. TWO LT'S HAD BEEN COMPLETELY LOAD-TESTED PREVIOUSLY.

3. (C) THE ACCIDENT WAS APPARENTLY CAUSED BY THE FAILURE (STRESS, FATIGUE, DEFECT, ETC) OF CASTING/FORGING NO. 9097436 ON THE BOOM AND INDEX SUPPORT STRUCTURE. THIS PART CAN BE SEEN TO THE RIGHT OF THE CUTAWAY POR-

TION OF ITEM 4 IN FIGURE 137 OF REF A. THE BREAK OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY ONE INCH FROM WHERE ITEM WAS WELDED TO SHAFT.

4. (U) RAYTHEON HAS TAKEN SEVERAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND IS PREPARING A FULL REPORT WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED. WE BELIEVE GOK WILL APPOINT SOME SORT OF INVESTIGATION BOARD. IF RESULTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE, THESE WILL ALSO BE FORWARDED.

5. (C) A SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCIDENT IS AS FOLLOWS:  
AL-MAHBOOB WAS STANDING ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE LT LOADING WEIGHTS ON THE LEFT MISSILE. WHEN THE METAL BROKE, THE ENTIRE SUPERSTRUCTURE SHIFTED IMMEDIATELY TOWARD HIM. THE CHANGE IN CENTER OF GRAVITY COMBINED WITH THE MOMENTUM CAUSED WITH ENTIRE LT TO TIP OVER, PINNING AL-MAHBOOB BENEATH THE MISSILES AND WEIGHTS. PERSONNEL PRESENT IMMEDIATELY RIGHTED THE LT BY HAND AND REMOVED AL-MAHBOOB. KADF PERSONNEL TRANSPORTED HIM TO THE HOSPITAL WHERE HE DIED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

6. (U) AT THIS TIME WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ALL RAMIFICATIONS BUT FOLLOWING ITEMS HAVE TRANSPIRED:  
A. KADF HAS REQUESTED THAT RAYTHEON HELP THEM INITIATE SAFETY SOP'S FOR ALL OPERATIONS AND AN INTENSIVE SAFETY CAMPAIGN. E. WEINBERG HAS CONCURRED WITH THIS  
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REQUEST FROM LTC TARIQ AND HE MAY BE GETTING ASSISTANCE FROM CONUS OFFICE.

B. CHIEF, CMF, HAS HALTED ALL FUTURE TESTING OR LOADING OF LT'S UNTIL ADEQUATE SAFETY MEASURES ARE DEvised TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE.

C. A LOCAL INVESTIGATION OF SOME SORT WILL BE CONDUCTED.  
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MISSILES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KUWAIT03838  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780273-0376  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FATALITY IN KADF I-HAWK PROGRAM (U)  
**TAGS:** MASS, KU, (AL-MAHBOOB, SAAD AHMED SAAD)  
**To:** CDR MIRCOM RSA AL  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014